DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 470 310 PS 030 822

TITLE	Reading with Children: Activities for Families with Children Ages 3 to 5 [Presented by] "Between the Lions[R]" = La lectura con los ninos: Actividades para familias con ninos de 3 a 5 anos [presentado por] "Between the Lions[R]."
INSTITUTION	WGBH-TV, Boston, MA.
SPONS AGENCY	Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Washington, DC.; Office of Educational Research and Improvement (ED), Washington, DC.; Public Broadcasting Service, Alexandria, VA.
PUB DATE	2002-09-00
NOTE	34p.; Guide produced by WGBH Educational Foundation, Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY USA), and Sirius Thinking, Ltd. Funded in part by the Ready-to-Learn Act. Also supported by the Park Foundation, the Civil Society Institute, the E.H.A. Foundation, and the SAPPI Ideas That Matter program. For related "Between the Lions[R]" documents, see PS 030 823-827.
AVAILABLE FROM	WGBH Educational Foundation, 125 Western Ave., Boston, MA 02134. Tel: 617-300-4379; Web site: http://www.pbskids.org/lions.
PUB TYPE	Guides - Non-Classroom (055) -- Multilingual/Bilingual Materials (171)
LANGUAGE	English, Spanish
EDRS PRICE	EDRS Price MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Beginning Reading; Childrens Television; *Emergent Literacy; Learning Activities; Multilingual Materials; Parent Materials; Parent School Relationship; *Parent Student Relationship; *Preschool Children; Preschool Education; *Reading Aloud to Others; Reading Material Selection
IDENTIFIERS	*Between the Lions; Family Activities; Public Broadcasting

ABSTRACT

"Between the Lions" is a Public Broadcasting System program promoting literacy for children ages 4 through 7 years combining state-of-the-art puppetry, animation, live action, and music to achieve its mission of helping young children learn to read. This guide, in English- and Spanish-language versions, provides literacy activities for parents and their 3- to 5-year-olds and focuses on reading aloud to children. The guide suggests books for children and provides tips for reading aloud to children such as reading every day, bringing a book along on errands, and reading without distractions such as television or radio. Included is a story ("The Lion and the Mouse") for parents to read with their children, a related finger puppet activity, and suggestions for additional activities. Also included are materials and instructions for making a wordless book, a Rebus story to share, and tips for selecting children's books. (KB)

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Reading with Children
[and]
La Lectura Con Los Niños

Between the Lions produced by WGBH Boston and Sirius Thinking, Ltd.

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Between the Lions®

Reading with Children

Activities for families with children ages 3 to 5

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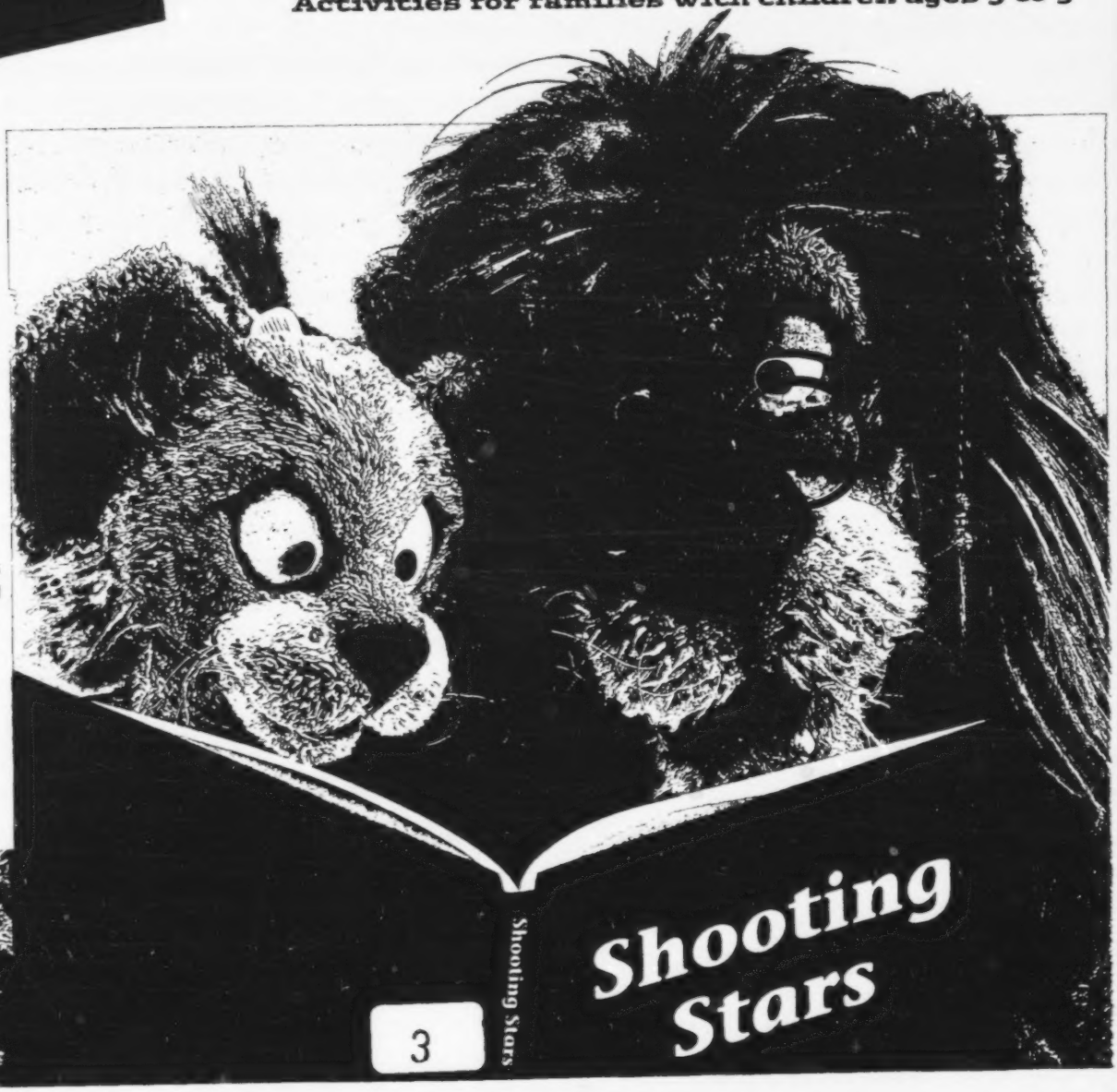

BETWEEN THE LIONS is produced by WGBH Boston and Sirius Thinking, Ltd.

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On BETWEEN THE LIONS, the daily PBS series, Theo and Cleo read to their cubs every day. It's fun and relaxing and helps their cubs develop a lifelong love of reading. Theo and Cleo know that reading aloud is the single most important thing parents can do to help their children succeed in school.

Watch BETWEEN THE LIONS weekdays on your PBS station. Ask your librarian to help you find the BETWEEN THE LIONS Web site (**pbskids.org/lions**) on the library's computers. You'll find read-aloud stories and lots of games to play with your child.

Suggested Books

The library has many different kinds of books that you can borrow—free. Your librarian can help you choose books that your child will love. Here are some titles to get you started. For other tips about choosing books, see the last page of this booklet.

Abuela, by Arthur Dorros. A little girl and her grandmother enjoy a fantastic adventure flying over New York City.

The Empty Pot, by Demi. The delicately detailed artwork and simple wording show how one child's failure becomes a success because of his honesty.

Flossie and the Fox, by Patricia McKissack. Feisty Flossie outwits a clever fox.

I Love You, Little One, by Nancy Tafuri. The little animals in this story ask the same question, "Do you love me, Mama?" This comforting book is a joy to read together.

Julius: The Baby of the World, by Kevin Henkes. At first, Lily doesn't like her new baby brother.

Stellaluna, by Janell Cannon. A little bat learns that families can come in all shapes, sizes—and species.

Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak. When Max is naughty, he is sent straight to bed, but ends up "where the wild things are."

Reading Aloud

Reading aloud to kids—even just a few minutes a day—is proven to build literacy and learning skills. Reading can help kids do better in school, and for the rest of their lives. Every child deserves that kind of advantage. Here are some ideas to help you make reading together fun for you and your kids.

1. Read with your child every day, even just a few minutes. Encourage older siblings to read to their younger brothers and sisters.
2. Bring a book along to read when you ride the bus together, wait in line at the store, or go to the doctor's office. Reading is a great way to keep children occupied and happy when you're waiting.
3. Try to find a regular time and a quiet, comfortable place for reading together.
4. Turn off other distractions, such as the radio or television.
5. Read slowly enough so that your child has time to take in the story and look at the pictures. Point to the words as you go.
6. Children may enjoy holding the book or turning the pages. Invite your child to point to words on the page or help you read the words.
7. Read with expression. Try creating different voices for different characters.
8. Talk about the story with your child. Did he or she like it? Why?
9. Older children enjoy reading aloud, too. They can read their favorite parts, or you can take turns reading chapter books.

Start reading with the story on the next page, then do the activity that follows!

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The Lion and the Mouse

One day a Mouse ran over the paws of a sleeping Lion. Angrily the mighty beast woke up and grabbed the Mouse by the tail. He was about to gobble up the little animal, when the Mouse cried out, "Please, don't eat me! I would be only a tiny mouthful. Besides, if you let me go, I'll return the favor and help you one day."

The idea that this tiny creature could ever help him made the Lion roar with laughter, but finally he let his little prisoner go.

Later, the Lion was caught in a hunter's net. The more he struggled, the more he became entangled. His roar of rage echoed through the forest. Hearing the sound, the Mouse ran to the trap and chewed the ropes that

bound the Lion. It was not long before he had cut the last cord with his little teeth and set the huge beast free.

The Mouse said, "See? I told you I would help you someday!"

Thank you!" said the Lion. "I'm sure glad I didn't eat you!"

"You are welcome," said the Mouse. "And now I hope that you can see how small friends can be a big help."

And from that day forward, the little Mouse and the big Lion were best friends.

After reading, ask your child what she thought of the story. Say to her, "There are lots of ways that you help me. Let's think of some of the ways." Encourage your child to draw a picture of her favorite part of the story.

"The Lion and the Mouse" Activity

A good book doesn't have to end with the last page. You can add to the adventure with all kinds of activities. Acting out the story is one thing you and your child can do to make the story come alive. It also helps to develop your child's language skills.

What to do:

1. After you finish the story, ask your child some simple questions, such as:

   - What did the lion want to do with the mouse in the beginning of the story?
   - How do you think the little mouse felt?
   - What happened to the lion when he was walking through the jungle?
   - How did the little mouse help the big lion?
   - Why do you think the little mouse and the big lion became friends?

2. Color the puppets on the next page. Use any colors you want.

3. Cut out the two puppets, then carefully cut out the holes. Put two fingers through the holes. You can either be the lion or the mouse.

4. Take turns acting out the role of the very big lion and the little mouse.

5. You and your child can tell and retell the story. Have fun changing the story if you want!

6. Save the finger puppets. Use them with other stories or to tell stories of your own.

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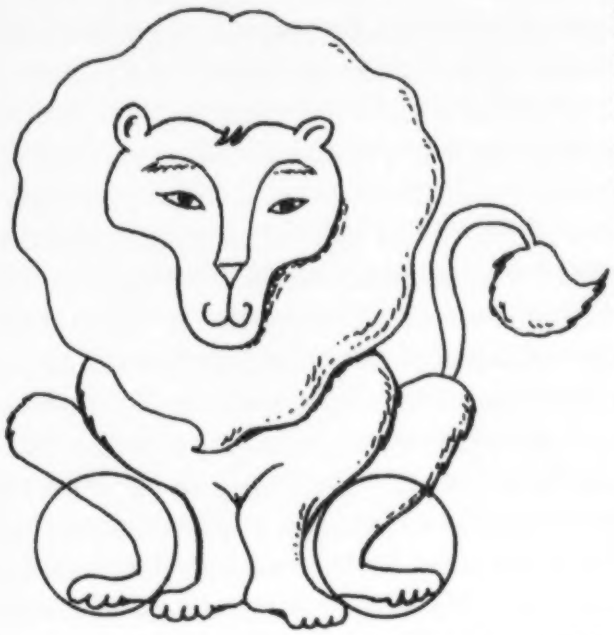
Finger Puppets

Lion



Mouse

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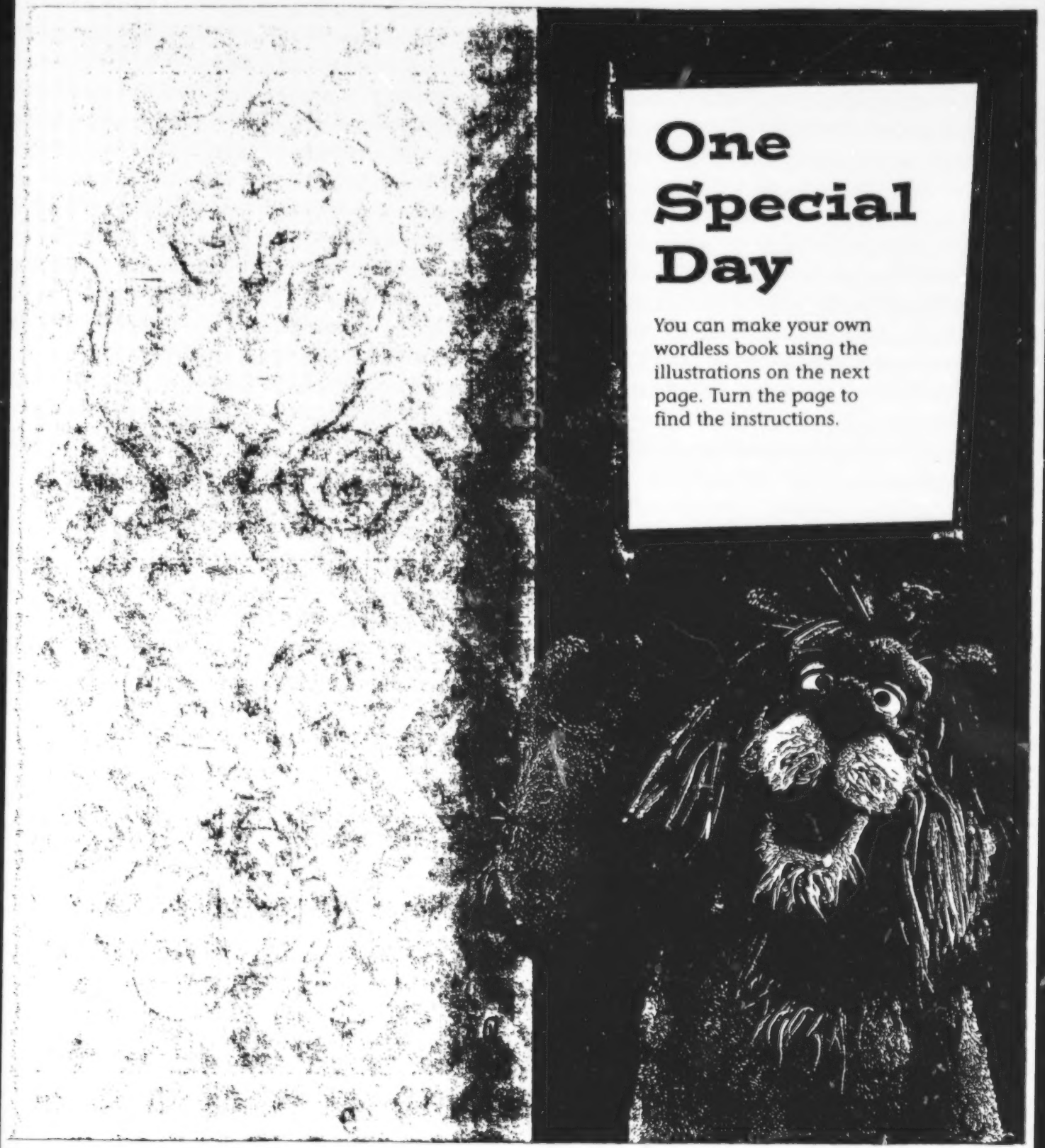

One Special Day

You can make your own wordless book using the illustrations on the next page. Turn the page to find the instructions.

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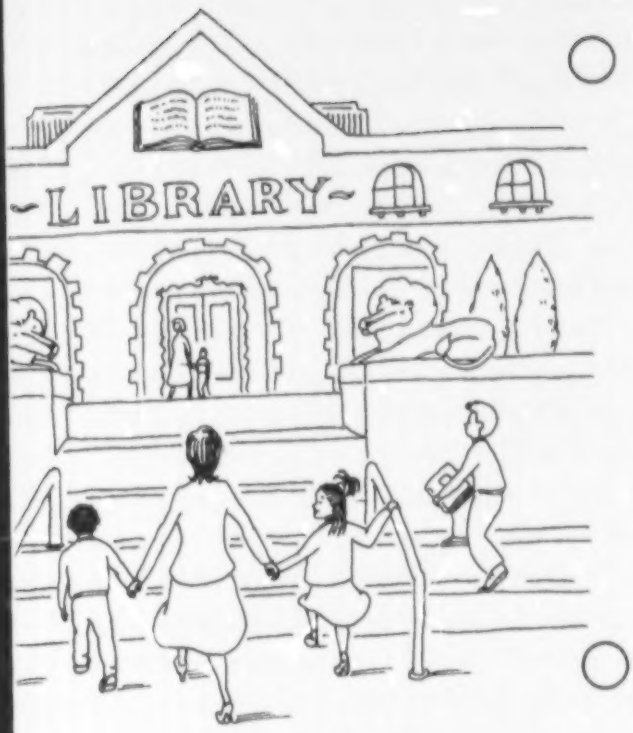
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One Special Day: A Wordless Storybook

Because there are few words in some picture books, children can "read" them in their own way. Help your child develop language, creativity, and imagination by making your own wordless picture book!

What to do:

1. Cut out the pictures on the previous page on the dotted lines.
2. Punch out the holes on the side of each picture.
3. The picture with the title "One Special Day" is the cover of your book. Place it on top.
4. Ask your child to color the pages and to write his name on the line any way he can.
5. Each page is numbered. Place each page in order.
6. Loosely tie a piece of string or yarn through the holes to hold the book together.

Take turns "reading" the story.

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Read a Rebus!

Tell me, tell me. What do you see?

I see a in the library!

She's reading a about climbing a .

It's a , you see.

A rebus story has pictures in place of some words, so grownups and kids can read the story together. It's fun for children to feel they are really participating in the story.

Tell me, tell me. What do you see?

I see a in the library!

He's reading a about planting .

And plenty of and bright red .

Tell me, tell me. What do you see?

I see some in the library.

They're reading a about chasing a .

The is hiding under a !

14

Tell me, tell me. What do you see?

I see a **in the library!**

He's reading a book about catching a .

A **who rides in a big blue** .

Tell me, tell me. What did you see?

I see four **in the library!**

They're the librarians! Yes, that is true.

And they love to read **—just as we do!**

Monkey

Bunny

Birds

Knight

Book

Carrots

Potatoes

Cat

Wagon

Dragon

Hat

Tree

Banana

Tomatoes

Lions

Choosing Books

Here are some suggestions for choosing books your children will really like.

1. Younger children enjoy books that use word repetition, rhymes, and predictable text. Look for books with colorful pictures and simple words.
2. For beginning readers, select books that match their skill level.
3. At the library, let your child choose some of the books.
4. If your child has a favorite book, he or she may enjoy other books written by the same author.
5. Choose stories that provide new experiences, such as folktales or books about different countries and cultures.
6. Choose books that match your child's interests, from dinosaurs to dancing. Most children like books that are funny.
7. Encourage your child to try different kinds of books, such as mysteries, biographies, and other non-fiction.
8. Ask the children's librarian for book suggestions or booklists.
9. Books about events in your child's life (new siblings, moving) can help her or him cope with fears and other feelings.
10. Visit the BETWEEN THE LIONS Web site (**pbskids.org/lions**) for more on children and reading.

This booklet was produced by the WGBH Educational Programming and Outreach department and Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY USA; www.hippyusa.org; 212 532 7730).

HIPPYUSA

BETWEEN THE LIONS is produced by WGBH Boston and Sirius Thinking, Ltd.

Closed captioned for viewers who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Described for viewers who are blind or visually impaired by Descriptive Video Service (DVS).

BETWEEN THE LIONS is funded in part by a Ready to Learn Television Cooperative Agreement from the US Department of Education through the Public Broadcasting Service, and by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Major support is also provided by the Park Foundation and the Civil Society Institute.

Funding for this booklet was provided by the E.H.A. Foundation.

This booklet was supported under the Ready-to-Learn Act, as administered by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education. The work does not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the National Institute on Early Childhood Development and Education, the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, or the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal government.

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sappi Printing funded by the SAPPI Ideas that Matter program.

Pounce on...

pbskids.org/lions

Watch BETWEEN THE LIONS on PBS Kids™

PBS KIDS

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La lectura con los niños

Between the Lions®

presenta

Actividades para familias con niños de 3 a 5 años

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En BETWEEN THE LIONS, la serie que se transmite a diario en PBS, Theo y Cleo les leen a sus cachorros todos los días. Es una actividad divertida y relajante que les ayuda a los chiquitines a desarrollar una pasión por la lectura que les durará toda la vida. Theo y Cleo saben que de todo lo que pueden hacer los padres de familia por sus hijos, leerles en voz alta es lo que más les ayudará a triunfar en la escuela.

No se pierda BETWEEN THE LIONS de lunes a viernes en su canal de PBS. Pídale a la bibliotecaria que le ayude a encontrar la página Web de BETWEEN THE LIONS (**pbskids.org/lions**) en una computadora de la biblioteca. Hallará cuentos y muchos juegos para compartir con los niños.

Libros para los niños

En la biblioteca hay muchos libros diferentes para sacar prestados... ¡y todos gratis! La bibliotecaria le ayudará a escoger libros que serán del agrado de los niños. Para comenzar, podría repasar las siguientes sugerencias de títulos infantiles. En la última página de este folleto hallará otros consejos sobre cómo escoger libros para los niños.

Read to Your Bunny de Rosemary Wells. En este cuento con rimas se detallan los muchos motivos por los que los padres y los niños deben leer juntos todos los días.

El jardín de flores de Eve Bunting. Un poema sencillo y hermoso que cuenta cómo una niñita recoge flores, tierra y una caja, para crearle a su mamá un regalo de cumpleaños muy especial.

¡Me gusto como soy! de Nancy Carlson. Una cerdita encantadora descubre que le gusta su aspecto, lo que hace y los lugares que visita.

Oso pardo, oso pardo ¿qué ves ahí? de Bill Martin, Jr. Los niños chicos conocen una variedad de animales de colores en este cuento con rimas.

Iguanas in the Snow and Other Winter Poems/Iguanas en la nieve y otros poemas de invierno de Francisco X. Alarcón. En esta colección bilingüe de poemas se celebran las maravillas del invierno, desde las nieves de la Sierra Nevada hasta el bullicio festivo de los barrios de San Francisco.

Grandmother's Nursery Rhymes/Las nanas de abuelita de Nelly Palacio Jaramillo. En esta colección se destacan rimas infantiles tradicionales, canciones de cuna y trabalenguas en verso de Sur América, presentados en español e inglés.

Leer en voz alta

Se ha demostrado que leerles a los niños en voz alta —aunque sea por sólo unos minutos al día— aumenta sus destrezas de lectura y de escritura, y les facilita el aprendizaje. La lectura les ayudará a los niños a rendir mejor en la escuela y en el resto de su vida. Todo niño se merece contar con esa ventaja. Con las siguientes ideas, tanto usted como los niños se divertirán al leer juntos.

1. Lea con el niño todos los días, aunque sea por unos minutos solamente. Anime a los hermanos y hermanas mayores a leerles a los menores.
2. Lleve consigo un libro para leer en voz alta cuando salgan juntos. Pueden leer en el autobús, al esperar en fila en la tienda, o en el consultorio del médico. La lectura mantiene a los niños entretenidos y contentos mientras esperan.
3. Trate de establecer una hora fija para leer juntos, así como un sitio cómodo y tranquilo.
4. Apague todas las distracciones, incluso el televisor y la radio.
5. Lea lentamente para que el niño tenga tiempo de entender el cuento y apreciar las imágenes. Apunte a las palabras mientras las lee.
6. A los niños les puede agradar sujetar el libro o voltear las hojas. Invítelo a que apunte a las palabras en la página y le ayude a leerlas en voz alta.
7. Lea con expresión. Trate de crear voces diferentes para personajes diferentes.
8. Hablen sobre el relato. ¿Les gustó? Por qué?
9. A los niños más grandes también les agrada leer en voz alta. Ellos pueden leer las partes que más les gusten o pueden turnarse, leyendo cada uno un capítulo.

Comience a leer con el cuento que figura en la página que sigue. Luego hagan la actividad que se detalla.

León y Ratón

Un día, Ratón pasó corriendo y le pisó la garra a León, que dormía. El rey de la selva se despertó muy enojado y agarró a Ratón por la cola. Estaba a punto de comerse al animalito de un solo bocado cuando Ratón exclamó: ¡No me comas, por favor! Yo no sería más que un bocadito chiquitito. Y además, si me sueltas, un día yo te devolveré el favor y haré algo por ti."

La noción de que este animalito de alguna manera pudiera ayudarle al gran León lo hizo reírse a carcajadas y gruñidos. Pero León decidió soltar a su pequeño prisionero.

Un día, León quedó atrapado en la red de un cazador. Cuanto más batallaba, más se enredaba. Sus rugidos de rabia retumbaron

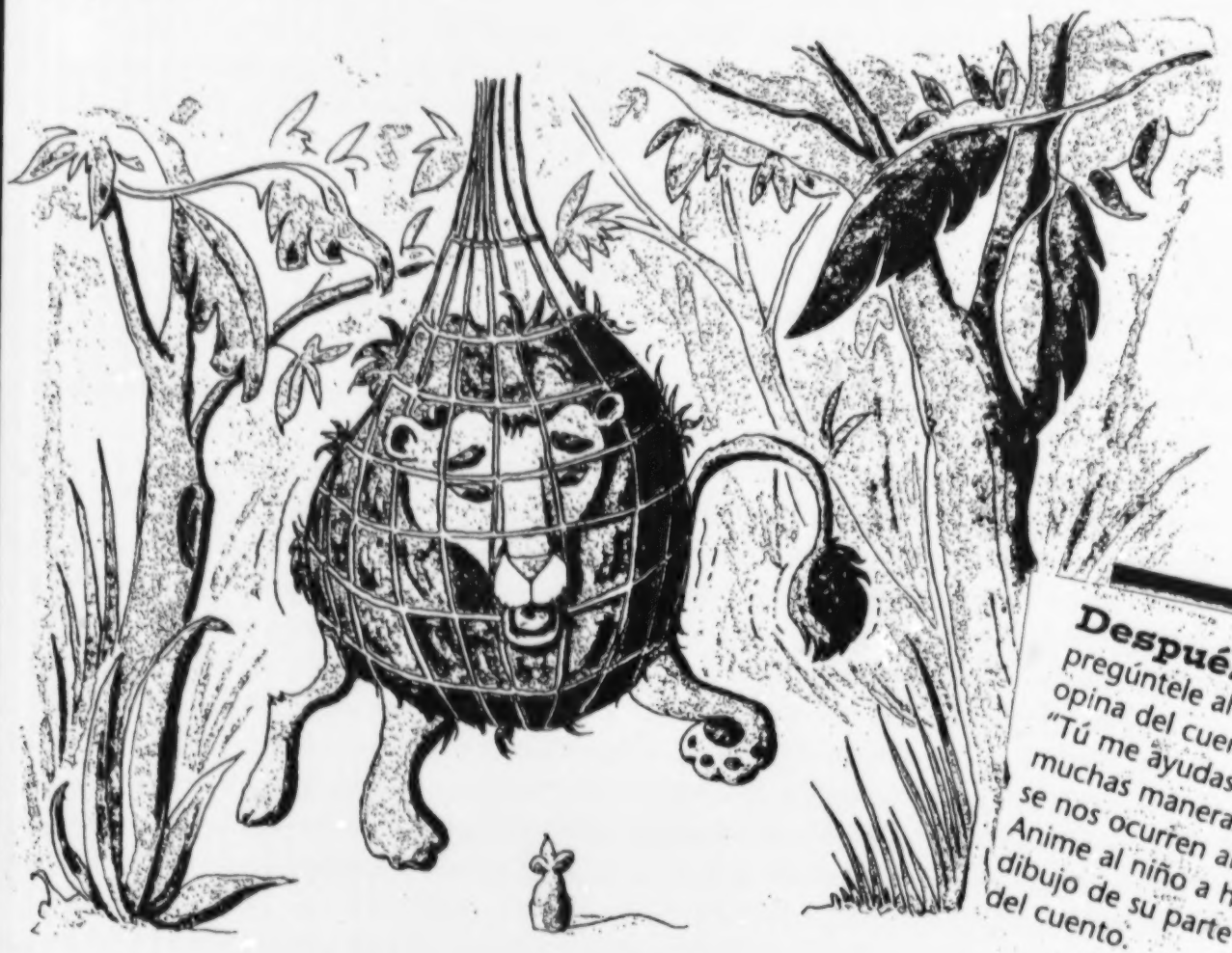
por toda la selva. Al escuchar el ruido, Ratón corrió hacia donde estaba León y se puso a roer las sogas que ataban al poderoso animal. Al poco tiempo, los dien tecillos de Ratón trozaron la última soga y León quedó libre.

"¿Viste?" dijo Ratón. "Te dije que algún día te ayudaría."

"Muchas gracias." dijo León. "¡Qué bueno que no te comí!"

"De nada." contestó Ratón. "Espero que ahora entiendas que los amigos pequeños pueden ayudar en grande."

Y a partir de ese día, el pequeño Ratón y el gran León fueron amigos inseparables.



Después de leer

pregúntele al niño qué opina del cuento. Dígale "Tú me ayudas a mí de muchas maneras. A ver si se nos ocurren algunas." Anime al niño a hacer un dibujo de su parte favorita del cuento.

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Actividad para "León y Ratón"

Un buen libro no tiene que terminar en la última página. La aventura se puede prolongar con toda clase de actividades. La representación actuada del cuento como si fuera una obra de teatro es una manera de darle vida al cuento. Y le ayuda al niño a desarrollar sus destrezas de lenguaje.

Qué hacer:

1 Al terminar de leer el cuento, hágale al niño unas preguntas sencillas, como:

- ¿Qué quería hacer León con Ratón al comienzo del cuento?
- ¿Cómo crees que se sintió el ratoncito?
- ¿Qué le pasó a León cuando caminaba por la selva?
- ¿Cómo le ayudó el pequeño Ratón al gran León?
- ¿Por qué crees que se hicieron amigos el ratoncito y el leonzote?

2 Coloree los títeres para los dedos en la página que sigue. Use cualquier color.

3 Recorte los dos títeres y con cuidado recorte los agujeros marcados. Pase un dedo por cada agujero. Usted puede ser cualquiera de los dos, el león o el ratón.

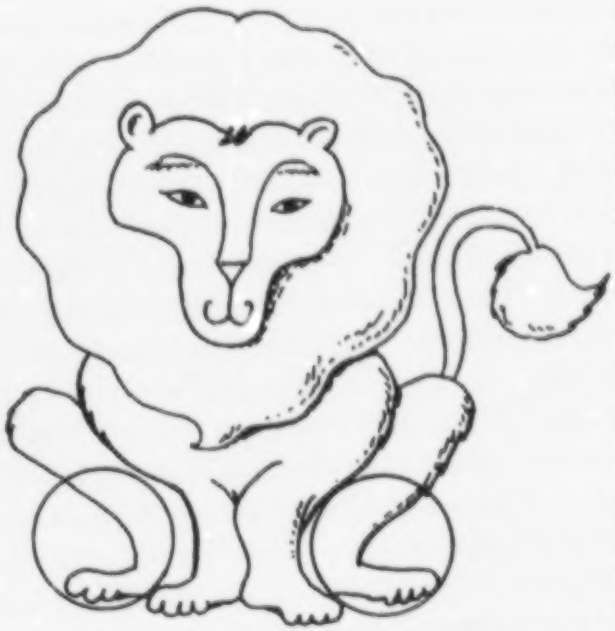
4 Túrnense la representación actuada de los papeles de León, el rey de la selva, y de Ratón, rescatador del rey.

5 Usted y el niño pueden contar y volver a contar el mismo cuento. Si lo desean, pueden divertirse cambiándole detalles al cuento.

6 Guarde los títeres. Úselos con otros cuentos o para contar cuentos inventados por ustedes mismos.

Títeres para los dedos

León



Ratón

Un día especial

Puede crear su propio libro, sin palabras, usando las ilustraciones de las páginas que siguen. Voltee la página para ver las instrucciones.

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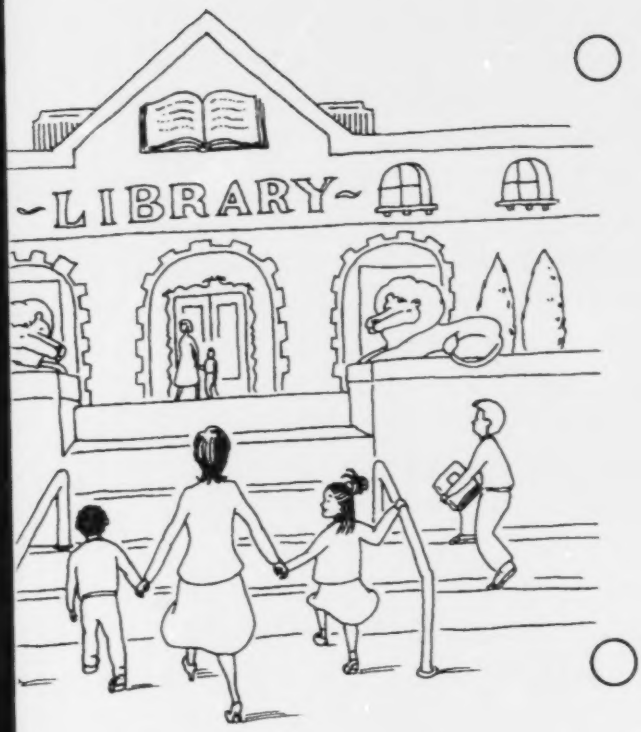
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Un día especial: Un cuento sin palabras

Como muchos libros infantiles ilustrados tienen muy pocas palabras, los niños pueden "leerlos" a su manera. Ayúdele al niño a desarrollar su lenguaje, su creatividad y su imaginación haciéndole este libro ilustrado y sin palabras que será de su propia autoría.

Qué hacer:

1. Siga las líneas punteadas para recortar los dibujos en la página anterior.
2. Use una perforadora para hacer los agujeros a cada lado de cada dibujo.
3. El dibujo con el título "Un día especial" será la portada del libro. Colóquelo encima de los demás.
4. Pídale al niño que coloree las páginas y que escriba su nombre en la línea.
5. Cada página viene numerada. Ponga las páginas en orden.
6. Sin apretar, ate un hilo o trozo de lana hilada por los agujeros, para así conformar un libro encuadernado.

Lean el cuento por turnos.

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Un jeroglífico

Dime, dime: ¿qué ves ahí?

Veo una **¡en la biblioteca!**

Está leyendo un **sobre cómo treparse a un**

¡Claro! Es un **de** **.**

Los cuentos con jeroglíficos tienen dibujos donde deben ir algunas palabras, para que los grandes y los niños puedan leer juntos. Es divertido y los niños se dan cuenta que de veras están participando en la lectura del cuento.

Dime, dime: ¿qué ves ahí?

Veo una **¡en la biblioteca!**

Está leyendo un **sobre cómo sembrar** **,**

unas **largas y unos** **muy, muy rojos.**

Dime, dime: ¿qué ves ahí?

Veo unos **¡en la biblioteca!**

Están leyendo un **sobre cómo perseguir a un** **.**

El **está escondido debajo de un** **.**

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Dime, dime: ¿qué ves ahí?

Veo un **¡en la biblioteca!**

Está leyendo un libro cómo capturar a un **.**

Un **a quien le gusta montar en un** **grande y azul.**

Dime, dime: ¿qué ves ahí?

Veo unos **¡en la biblioteca!**

¡Son los bibliotecarios! Sí, así es.

Y les encanta leer **. ¡Igual que a nosotros!**

Mona

Coneja

Pájaros

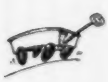
Caballero

Libro

Zanahorias

Papas

Gato


Carreta

Dragón

Sombrero

Árbol

Plátano

Tomates

Leones

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Cómo escoger libros

He aquí unas sugerencias sobre cómo escoger libros que les gusten a los niños.

1. A los niños pequeños les gustan los libros en los que se repiten palabras, rimas y texto. Les agrada anticiparse a lo que viene. Busque libros con ilustraciones de mucho colorido y palabras sencillas.

2. Para el lector principiante, escoja libros que estén a su nivel de destrezas.

3. En la biblioteca, deje que el niño escoja algunos de los libros.

4. Si el niño tiene un libro favorito, quizá le gusten otros libros del mismo autor.

5. Escoja cuentos que ofrezcan nuevas experiencias, tales como cuentos o libros populares de otros países y culturas.

6. Seleccione libros que se refieran a lo que le interesa al niño, sean dinosaurios, bailes o lo que el niño mismo indique. A casi todos los niños les gustan los libros chistosos.

7. Anime al niño a leer una variedad de libros, tales como misterios, biografías y otros libros que son verídicos.

8. Pídale a la bibliotecaria infantil sugerencias o listas de libros clasificados por edades o intereses.

9. Los libros sobre cosas que suceden en la vida del niño (la llegada de un hermanito, la mudanza a otro lugar) le pueden ayudar a resolver sus temores y otras sensaciones.

10. Visite la página Web de BETWEEN THE LIONS en (**pbskids.org/lions**) para obtener más ideas sobre los niños y la lectura.

Este folleto es una producción del Departamento de Programación y Extensión Educativa de WGBH y de Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY USA; www.hippyusa.org; 212 532 7730).

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También se recibió apoyo clave de la Park Foundation y el Civil Society Institute.

Los fondos para este folleto provienen de la E.H.A. Foundation.

Este folleto contó con el apoyo de la Ley Ready-to-Learn, administrada por la Office of Educational Research and Improvement del Departamento de Educación del gobierno federal estadounidense. El trabajo no necesariamente representa la postura ni las normas del National Institute on Early Childhood Development and Education, la Office of Educational Research and Improvement, ni el Departamento de Educación, ni se debe presuponer que se cuenta con el endoso del gobierno federal estadounidense.

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sappi Los fondos para la imprenta de este folleto provienen del programa SAPPI Ideas that Matter.

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